

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CIVIL SERVICE LONG-TERM CARE INSURANCE BENEFIT ACT

HON. JOHN L. MICA

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, August 5, 1998

Mr. MICA. Mr. Speaker, most people believe that they are covered for long-term care by their health care plans, disability insurance, or by Medicare. Unfortunately, many learn the hard way—when they or a family member needs care—that they are not adequately covered and must pay for long-term care on their own. By 2030, the average annual cost of a nursing home stay will increase from \$40,000 today to more than \$97,000 (in 1997 dollars).

Long-term care insurance provides protection from these catastrophic financial risks and reduces reliance on Medicaid.

As one of the Nation's largest employers it is appropriate that the Federal Government offer long-term care insurance as a benefit to Federal employees. An amazing 86% of Federal employees have expressed interest in long-term care insurance in response to survey questionnaires.

Today I will introduce the "Civil Service Long-Term Care Insurance Benefit Act" that establishes a program through which Federal employees and annuitants may obtain group or individual long-term care insurance for themselves, their spouses, and any other eligible relative. This benefit option would be available by January, 2000.

This bill will make long-term care insurance affordable to the Federal community through competition and choice.

NATIONAL CAMPAIGN TO STOP VIOLENCE—DO THE WRITE THING CHALLENGE PROGRAM

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, August 5, 1998

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, five years ago in the District of Columbia, the Do the Write Thing Challenge Program was established. The program was started by the Kuwait American Foundation as a way for private Kuwaiti citizens to give thanks for America's support during the Gulf War. The program attracted the interest of a variety of groups who formed a coalition that created the National Campaign to Stop Violence.

Young people in the seventh and eighth grades were asked to write an essay, poem or song that responded to the question, "What can I do to stop violence?" This spring, the writings were reviewed by community leaders and 60 finalists were selected from 22 states. A leather bound book of their essays was presented to General Scott at the Library of Congress, and the young people enjoyed a reception, in their honor, in the Cannon Caucus Room.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in this chamber to celebrate and encourage the aspirations of the finalists from the District of Columbia, Nia Hepburn-Nelson and Mark Parker.

Nia is a seventh grade student attending Jefferson Junior High School who aspires to be a computer programmer. Nia and her family reside in Northeast Washington, DC. Mark is in the seventh grade at Stuart Hobson Middle School. He has an avid interest in international relations and would like to serve his country as the Secretary of Defense.

CLINTON, MA, NAMED OFFICIAL MILLENNIUM TOWN, USA

HON. JAMES P. McGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, August 5, 1998

Mr. McGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to announce the designation of the Town of Clinton, MA as the official Millennium Town, USA.

They will be celebrating their 150th anniversary in the year 2000 and will truly become a genuine millennium town. Clinton, MA has already had the accomplishments of a millennium town by copyrighting several historic souvenirs—the world's first Millennium 2000 dollar bill, an official Millennium seal—Y2K, the millennium 2000 toasting mug, and the official millennium cookie. These products are the work of local resident Richard L. Harding.

I applaud the town of Clinton, MA for all of their hard work and accomplishments they have had which has given them the right to earn the title of Millennium Town, USA.

MISCELLANEOUS TRADE AND TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS ACT OF 1998

SPEECH OF

HON. ROBERT A. WEYGAND

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 4, 1998

Mr. WEYGAND. Madam Speaker, I speak in support of H.R. 4342. H.R. 4342 includes the text of several pieces of legislation that I introduced. I also wanted to thank Chairman CRANE, the rest of the Ways and Means Committee, the Subcommittee on Trade and their respective staffs for working with me on these bills.

The bills I introduced granted a duty suspension on several products used in the coatings and plastics industry. These products are organic replacements for colorants that use heavy metals, such as lead, molybdenum, chrome, and cadmium. We have all heard about the environmental and health consequences associated with using heavy metals, especially lead. Using organic materials in place of heavy metals is a step in the right di-

rection toward protecting our environment and our health.

Tariffs are generally imposed to protect American companies from an unfair disadvantage from foreign competitors. When a tariff becomes a hindrance to American competitiveness, it needs to be reconsidered. In this case, maintaining tariffs results in substantial costs to U.S. businesses. Removing these tariffs will better enable U.S. businesses to compete, and maintain stable employment and production levels.

I urge my colleagues to support this measure.

ON THE RETIREMENT OF DR. KELVIN KESLER

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, August 5, 1998

Mr. SCHAFFER of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary contributions of a good friend, Dr. Kelvin Kesler, upon his retirement after nearly 30 years of providing outstanding medical care to the families of Fort Collins, Colorado. In 1970, Dr. Kesler opened the Fort Collins Women's Clinic, a facility offering the very best in obstetrical and gynecological medicine. Under his professional care, this small practice grew dramatically and now has 15 care providers, 65 employees, and a laboratory occupying a two story complex.

The medical advances Dr. Kesler helped pioneer, as well as keeping up with the latest medical breakthroughs in his field, are a testament to his remarkable scholarship and professionalism. Performing outpatient surgery in a state-of-the-art facility is a far cry from the days of home visits in the early 1970's. Through it all, Dr. Kesler succeeded and remained true to himself. Now delivering the children of children he once delivered, Dr. Kesler has enjoyed, in his own words, "a very rewarding career." While almost everything else has changed, Dr. Kesler's compassion and personal touch have not.

What makes Dr. Kesler truly remarkable is that he has always been committed to serving his family, community, and country. He was the first married U.S. physician sent to Vietnam. After serving in Vietnam and Japan from 1961–1963, he continued in the service of his country in the OB/GYN Department of the Naval Hospital at Camp Pendleton, CA, until 1969. Returning to Colorado, he quickly became a valued member of the University of Colorado's School of Medicine OB/GYN Department. In addition, during this same period he was heavily involved with Poudre Valley Hospital in Fort Collins, CO. During all of this activity, he still managed to start the Fort Collins Women's Clinic. A true leader in his profession, Dr. Kesler served with distinction as the president of the Colorado Obstetric and

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